

CLAIMS

1. A communication control apparatus for dividing one network into a first segment and a second segment, comprising:

    a first port connected to said first segment;  
    a second port connected to said second segment;

and

    control means for providing such a control as to, when a predetermined condition is satisfied, cause an isochronous packet received by said first port not to be relayed to said second port.

2. A communication control apparatus according to claim 1, wherein, when providing such a control as to cause an isochronous packet received by said first port not to be relayed to said second port, said control means provides such a control as to replace the isochronous packet received by said first port with another isochronous packet and then to relay said another isochronous packet to said second port.

3. A communication control apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said another isochronous packet is an isochronous packet which includes dummy data or null data.

4. A communication control apparatus according to

claim 1, wherein, when the isochronous packet received by said first port is an isochronous that has been transmitted from a predetermined node in accordance with an AV protocol, said control means provides such a control as to cause the isochronous packet received by said first port not to be relayed to said second port.

5. A communication control apparatus according to claim 4, wherein, when providing such a control as to cause an isochronous packet received by said first port not to be relayed to said second port, said control means provides such a control as to replace the isochronous packet received by said first port with another isochronous packet and then to relay said another isochronous packet to said second port.

6. A communication control apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said another isochronous packet is an isochronous packet which includes dummy data or null data.

7. A communication control apparatus according to claim 1, wherein, when a mode in which an isochronous packet transmitted from any node that belongs to said first segment is prevented from being relayed to said second port is set, said control means provides such a control as to cause the isochronous packet received by said first port not to be relayed to said second port.

8. A communication control apparatus according to claim 7, wherein, when providing such a control as to cause an isochronous packet received by said first port not to be relayed to said second port, said control means provides such a control as to replace the isochronous packet received by said first port with another isochronous packet and then to relay said another isochronous packet to said second port.

9. A communication control apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said another isochronous packet is an isochronous packet which includes dummy data or null data.

10. A communication control apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said network is a network conforming to the IEEE 1394-1995 Standard.